



Dana E. Blackwell  
Executive Director

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

**COMMISSIONERS:**

CAROL O. BIONDI, VICE CHAIR  
PATRICIA CURRY  
HONORABLE JOYCE FAHEY  
BRENDA GALLOWAY  
LILY GRIEGO  
PHALEN G. HUREWITZ, ESQ.  
HELEN A. KLEINBERG  
DAISY MA  
CHRISTINA S. MATTINGLY  
DR. LA-DORIS MCCLANEY  
SANDRA RUDNICK  
ADELINA SORKIN, LCSW/ACSW  
REVEREND G. LIND TAYLOR  
HARRIETTE F. WILLIAMS, Ed.D., CHAIR

## APPROVED

### MEETING SUMMARY

October 23, 2003

Hall of Administration, B-22  
500 West Temple Street

#### Commissioners Present:

Patricia Curry  
Joyce Fahey  
Lily Griego  
Phalen G. Hurewitz  
Daisy Ma  
Sandra Rudnick  
Adelina Sorkin  
Harriette Williams

#### Commissioners Absent (Excused):

Carol Biondi  
Brenda Galloway  
Helen Kleinberg  
Christina S. Mattingly  
La-Doris McClaney  
G. Lind Taylor

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Williams called the meeting to order.

#### 2. COMMISSION ELECTION:

Chair Williams indicated that there were several irregularities with respect to the Commission's election held September 22, 2003. Though it has been the practice of the Commission to vote by secret ballot, it has been brought to the Commission's attention that the Brown Act does not allow for votes to be taken by secret ballot. Some of the other issues raised were the accounting for all the

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ballots cast and permitting a Commissioner to vote after the vote had been taken by the Commission and tallied.

Since the election, County Counsel and the Executive Office have been consulted. The following three options were proposed to resolve the election issue: 1) allow the election results to stand as announced at meeting; 2) revote on the Vice Chair positions; 3) investigate election results either by a Commission committee or the Auditor Controller.

On the advice of Ralph Rosato, County Counsel, the Commission unanimously agreed to nullify the election. Nina Sorkin remained the Commission's Chair for this one item. Commissioner Sorkin briefly chaired the meeting. It was moved and seconded to reconfirm the election of Commissioner Williams as Commission Chair. The vote was unanimous. Carol Biondi remains the Commission's Vice Chair

Chair Williams forwarded the idea of having three Vice Chairs to resolve election issue of the Vice Chairs. This option would necessitate a change in the Commission's by-laws. The Commission discussed the pros and cons of this proposal. Commissioner Hurewitz moved that the Commission accept the recommendation of three Vice Chairs with the understanding that the Commission will revisit the change in the By-laws prior to the election of 2004. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Mr. Rosato advised the Commission as to the process to be followed in amending the By-laws. Keeping in mind the 30-day notice requirement to Commissioners for amendments, the vote on the change to the By-laws will take place on December 1, 2003. Executive Director, Dana Blackwell, was instructed to forward notification of the proposed change and a summary of the meeting.

John McKibben, Executive Office, has been in possession of the ballots. He asked the pleasure of the Commission as to what should be done with them. Chair Williams indicated that the ballots should be destroyed.

### **3. ADJOURNMENT**

The Commission meeting was adjourned and reconvened in room 743 for the Joint Commissions meeting.